

SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE
Municipal Offices
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 27, 2021 - 6:15 PM
Virtual Webex Meeting

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call Meeting to Order

- 2. Roll Call**
- Village President Collum
 - Trustee Brown
 - Trustee Coalier - **ABSENT**
 - Trustee Haskins
 - Trustee Hartshorn Hilton
 - Trustee Jones
 - Trustee Zuckerman
 - Mr. Loehner, Village Administrator
 - Mr. Rother, Village Counsel
 - Ms. Davis, Acting Village Clerk

3. Meeting Notice Statement

Adequate notice of this meeting had been provided to the press in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A 10:4-6 and in consideration of Executive Order No. 103, issued by Governor Murphy on March 9, 2020, declaring a State of Emergency and a Public Health Emergency in the State of New Jersey. Notice of this meeting was posted in Village Hall and on the Village's website, and has been filed in the Office of the Village Clerk. During a remote meeting, participants, including members of the public, may be muted by the host, however there will be an opportunity for them to participate and speak during the public portion of the meeting where participants will be unmuted at their request. Official action may be taken. Ojetti E. Davis, Acting Village Clerk

4. Resolution to go into Executive Session

2021-262 Resolution Authorizing an Executive Session at the September 27, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees



A. Matter/ (OPMA Exception)
Executive Session

- General Redevelopment (Attorney /Client Privilege Matter)
- Personnel Matters (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)
- Affordable Housing (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)
- Contract Negotiation Terms (Attorney/Client Privilege Matter)

Trustee Hilton moved to approve Resolution 2021-262, seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees were in favor and none opposed.

5. **Reconvene into Open Session**

ROLL CALL

Village President Collum
Trustee Brown
Trustee Coalier
Trustee Haskins
Trustee Hartshorn Hilton
Trustee Jones
Trustee Zuckerman
Mr. Loehner, Village Administrator
Mr. Rother, Village Counsel
Ms. Davis, Acting Village Clerk

6. **Announcements**

President Collum read the following announcements:

A. **Importance of continuing to follow the COVID-19 Emergency Precautions**

Importance of continuing to follow the COVID-19 Emergency Precautions - As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause us all health concerns and inconvenience; it is critical that we continue to follow the emergency protocols put in place. Cases are still on the rise, so we must remain vigilant. If you haven't gotten the vaccine yet, please do so. It is currently available for residents aged 12 and up. If we all do our part, we will see a return to normalcy soon.

B. **SOMA Two Towns for All Ages Repair Cafe**

The annual Repair Café will be held on Saturday, October 16th at the Maplewood Senior Center parking lot located at 106 Burnett Avenue in Maplewood in South Orange from 1-4 pm.



One of SOMA Two Towns for All Ages' most popular community engagement events is our Repair Cafe. For this event, we recruit volunteer local repair experts to lend their talents and skills to fix items for residents that would have been thrown away. Not only does this event promote community connection, it also promotes sustainability helping residents keep beloved items versus tossing them out.

We ask that you register in advance by contacting Tracy Carroll at soma2towns@gmail.com. Please indicate what needs repair so that we can ensure that the correct repair person is available to help you and that the repair takes place as efficiently as possible.

C. **Newcomers Day**

Newcomers Day is back and scheduled on Sunday, October 3, 2021 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm at the Skate House at Meadowland Park.

Newcomers Day gives the opportunity for ALL South Orange residents to have the opportunity to meet their neighbors, explore and sign up for volunteer organizations and have the opportunity to speak with South Orange Village departments and elected officials.

Tables will be set up around the Pond to ensure social distancing within our beautiful park. For more information, please visit our South Orange Village events page or email crc@southorange.org.

D. **Water Department**

Important Notice from New Jersey American Water: We recognize that many people are facing additional hardship due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, making it difficult to stay current on your water bills. To help, as of 7/12/2021 and going forward, we are offering payment plans to assist customers with bringing their past due balance current. **For more information or to enroll in a payment plan please contact the Customer Service Center at -1-855-722-7072. Call center representatives are available on weekdays from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.**

E. **Senior Freeze Property Tax Reimbursement**

SOMA Two Towns and the NJ Taxation University will have a presentation on the Senior Freeze Property Tax Reimbursement Program on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 1 p.m. via Zoom.

The Senior Freeze Property Tax Reimbursement Program reimburses homeowners, who are age 65 or older, or receiving Social Security disability benefits, and who paid property taxes on their principal residence in New Jersey directly or through mobile home park site



fees, for property tax increases on their main home. Income eligibility has increased so more people are now eligible. Deadline Date to file is November 1, 2021.

F. **Community Care & Justice**

South Orange is partnering with Essex County and Seton Hall University to create and launch a social work pilot called the Community Care & Justice Program. The CC&J mission: to engage community members in designing and traveling their own wellness journeys, with a particular focus on protecting and elevating our most vulnerable members and our youth. CC&J might include 911 Diversion, Restorative Practice Councils, dialogue on How To Be An Anti-Racist, Community and First Responder Mental Health Awareness Training and more.

We have launched a survey to identify CC&J priorities and we need your eyes and ears and input!

What values should drive our program? Where do you see a need for social work? How can we empower our community members to improve their mental health and wellness? How can we supplement Village law enforcement services to improve public safety in our community? Please take some time to complete our CC&J survey, which you can access at the Community Care & Justice landing page on our Village website, and please spread the word to your friends and neighbors. Thank you in advance for your commitment to CC&J.

G. **Mobility Action Committee**

South Orange Village is recruiting a chair, members, and volunteers for a new Mobility Action Committee – SO-MAC. SO-MAC will support South Orange in prioritizing and addressing community mobility concerns and will report their progress to the Village Health & Public Safety Committee. Activities will include identifying mobility solutions, identifying and applying for mobility grant funding, driving mobility safety events and communication campaigns, and more.

Those interested in serving as a SO-MAC member or to volunteer for mobility activities should complete a volunteer form on our Village website. For the chair position in particular, the Village is seeking those with strong leadership and recruitment skills, a professional background and/or deep interest in mobility matters, and project management proficiency. Chair applicants should anticipate a time



commitment of approximately 7 to 10 hours per week; all applicants should indicate the amount of their weekly time that is available to work on SO-MAC activities.

H. **Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling**

A Presentation to the Maplewood/South Orange Community on Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling future by Zero Waste USA will be held virtually on Tuesday, October 5th at 7:30pm.

To join the meeting, please use the following zoom link:
<https://www.twp.maplewood.nj.us/home/events/59916>

7. **Presentation**

A. **Storage Platform, LLC - Concept Plan**

Jason Tuvel attorney on behalf of the applicant discussed the details of the proposed application currently before the Planning Board. Mr. Tuvel explained they have been working with the Village for the past 18 months and recently appeared before the Historic Preservation Commission. The project will include a community space, movie screen and public restrooms. At this time the landscape design is not complete but they are working with the Village professionals. Mr. Tuvel also clarified that there is no need for a 30 foot easement that was previously noted on the plan but there will be a need for an access agreement. He introduced one presenter Bruce Stieve architect of the project. Mr. Stieve gave a brief background on how the project started. He showed an aerial view of the site and a good earth image that showed the surrounding area. Also discussed, trash collection location, loading zone, landscape and streetscape. He showed 3 renderings showing views from the corner of Lackawanna & Valley, Founders Park and the front view of Valley Street.

President Collum thanked Mr. Tuvel and Mr. Stieve for their presentation on this concept and the board will be voting on the resolution later in the meeting.

B. **Library Presentation**

Jill Faherty, Library Director & Hildy Karp, Library Board President Ms. Karp discussed the comprehensive search conducted by the Library Board and introduced the new Library Director Jill Faherty. Ms. Faherty thanked the board for the opportunity to discuss Library. She discussed some of the upcoming plans for the library with more engagement, assessment diversity audit project, extending the hours



and a variety of upcoming events over the next few weeks. The award of the pending grant will be announced mid-October. The current library renovations will be completed early next year and hopes to make more improvements next year through capital projects. Ms. Faherty also discussed shared library services in the future.

8. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

9. Approval of Minutes

A. The Village Clerk is requesting the Board's approval of the minutes for the following meeting:

- Regular meeting held on September 13, 2021 (All Trustees are eligible to vote)

Trustee Hilton moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 13, 2021 seconded by Trustee Brown.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Absent
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes
Motion Carried.	

10. Resolutions for Consent Agenda

2021-263 RESOLUTION APPOINTING CLIFF POMERANTZ AS A REGULAR MEMBER TO THE SOUTH ORANGE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

2021-264 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES ON 45 THIRD STREET

2021-265 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES FOR 9 LENNOX TERRACE

2021-266 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME CROSSING GUARDS FOR THE SOUTH ORANGE POLICE



DEPARTMENT

2021-267 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #10 - FOR FRANKOSKI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR INCREASE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL LABOR, MATERIALS AND/OR EQUIPMENT TO INSTALL PLYWOOD SHEATHING AT LOCATIONS WHERE SHEATHING DOES NOT EXIST. INCLUDES ADDITIONAL LABOR AND DISPOSAL ASSOCIATED WITH REMOVAL OF MULTIPLE LAYERS OF EXISTING ROOF SYSTEM. WILL BE PERFORMED ON A TIME AND MATERIALS BASIS ON A NOT TO EXCEED INCREASE OF \$73,650.95 TO THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT

2021-268 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TORO SAND PRO 5040 MODEL #08745 THRU VENDOR STORR TRACTOR COMPANY UNDER THE BERGEN COUNTY COOPERATIVE BID #20-03, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$22,819.38

2021-269 RESOLUTION FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE MORRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND

2021-270 RESOLUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 9.5 OF THE LACKAWANNA + VALLEY REDEVELOPMENT PLAN APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING STORAGE PLATFORM TO PROCEED BEFORE THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE FOR SITE PLAN AND/OR SUBDIVISION APPROVAL

2021-271 RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF NOT EXCEEDING \$700,000 BONDS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX, NEW JERSEY, AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR SALE TO THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF VARIOUS AGREEMENTS, ALL PURSUANT TO THE NEW JERSEY WATER BANK

2021-272 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HIRING OF PART-TIME, SEASONAL EMPLOYEE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE

2021-273 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 2021 HYBRID FORD ESCAPES, SE MODEL FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT THRU ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT UNDER THE SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE PRICING COUNCIL CONTRACT #060618-EFM IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$65,000

2021-274 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) 2022 FORD F-350 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS THRU ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT UNDER THE SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE PRICING



COUNCIL CONTRACT #060618-EFM IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
\$4,000 PER MONTH FOR THE LEASING OF VEHICLES

Trustee Zuckerman moved to adopt resolutions 2021-263 through
2021-274, seconded by Trustee Jones.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Absent
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes
Motion carried	

11. Board of Health

- A. Trustee Hilton moved to recess the meeting of Board of Trustees and
convene as the Board of Health, seconded by Trustee Jones. All
members were in favor.

Roll Call:

Board Member Brown
Board Member Collum
Board Member Haskins
Board Member Hartshorn Hilton
Board Member Jones
Board Member Zuckerman
Board President Coalier - **Absent**

Board Members have been provided with the monthly report for
September 2021 from John M. Festa, M.A., Health Officer. Mr. Festa
gave a brief update on covid cases and discussed sites where
residents can receive testing and vaccinations.

President Collum discussed a concern she received from a resident
regarding lantern flies in the Newstead playground. Mr. Loehner
stated he would have DPW Tree expert to take a look at it.

There being no further discussion, Ms. Collum moved to adjourn as
the Board of Health and reconvene as the Board of Trustees,
seconded by Mr. Haskins. Acting President Hilton adjourned the



meeting at approximately 8:00 pm. All members were in favor.

Reconvened as Board of Trustees and all members are still present

12. Approval of Bills

- A. Trustee Hartshorn Hilton, Chair of the Finance and Capital Projects Committee presents the Bills List audited by the Village Treasurer dated September 27, 2021. The Board of Trustees has been provided with a copy of the Bills List prior to the meeting for examination.

2021-275 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS AND THE ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, 2021 IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$7,376,630.53

Trustee Hilton moved to adopt the Bill List Resolution 2021-275, seconded by Trustee Zuckerman.

Roll Call Vote:

Trustee Brown	Yes
Trustee Coalier	Absent
Trustee Haskin	Yes
Trustee Hilton	Yes
Trustee Jones	Yes
Trustee Zuckerman	Yes

Motion carried.

13. Village President Report

President Collum thanked the staff on going a good job on Tropical Storm Ida. She deferred her report to the next BOT meeting.

14. Village Administrator Report

Mr. Loehner discussed the following

- Master Plan Update – The Planning Board has scheduled a special meeting on October 26th at 7pm. This will be a virtual meeting with presentation only. There will be no public comment at this meeting.

Tropical Storm Ida Update - The DPW yard had lots of oil spilled and they are waiting on the soil samples results before the reopening the yard. Also, SOPAC experienced a lot of damage due to the storm which will delay in person meetings. He explained the damages to



the Village are almost \$7 million dollars and filing lot of insurance claims but hopes to get a large portion back from FEMA.

15. Village Counsel Report

16. Trustee Reports

A. Trustee Brown

- Recreation and Cultural Affairs Update – There were 2 successful events over the past week with the Latin Heritage Dance Party and Movie Night. Flag football is on the way and the first ever South Orange Cornhole Classic in October, visit the Village website to register online.

B. Trustee Coalier

- Community Care & Justice – Trustee Hilton encouraged everyone one to participate in the survey which can be found on the Village's website.

C. Trustee Haskins

D. Trustee Hartshorn Hilton

E. Trustee Jones

F. Trustee Zuckerman

17. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

18. New Business

A. Changing the way we collect leaves!

Trustee Haskins discussed a better practice for leaves would be to bag the leaves instead of putting them in the streets. He believed the practice can start now with residents helping their neighbors and lots of educations to the public. For this year, he proposes this as a volunteer Pilot program and next year propose an ordinance. Trustee Hilton agreed with the proposal and Trustee Jones thought bagging the leaves would be better but needs better communication on leaf pickup. Trustee Brown mentioned he received some comments that bags in the street could disrupt the flow of the water and DPW



currently has a lot on their plate. President Collum is glad to hear that this year will be more of a pilot but concerned about the cost for the residents especially those with large properties. President Collum asked Mr. Otis to prepare a resolution for a pilot on the next meeting agenda.

19. Adjournment

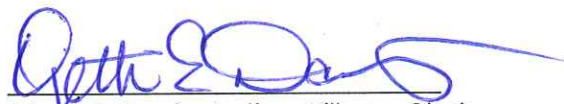
There being no further discussion, Trustee Jones moved to adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:55 pm. President Collum announced the next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, October 11, 2021.

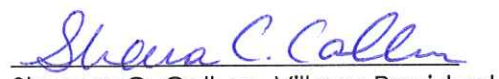
***These minutes are a summary and the actual statements can be found on the video located on the Village's website at the following link:**

<https://southorangenetwpnj.civicclerk.com/Web/Player.aspx?id=36&key=-1&mod=-1&mk=-1&nov=0>

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHORANGEVILLAGE


Ojerri E. Davis, Acting Village Clerk


Sheena C. Collum, Village President